GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4653
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Slow Pace of Capacity Addition in Solar Energy Sector
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the slow pace of capacity addition in the solar energy sector has created room for a variety of off grid solar solutions to grow and provide electricity to those who are not yet connected to the power grid and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government is targeting 12 GW a year of capacity addition of solar power whereas the country is able to achieve only 6 GW a year and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(c) whether off grid solar power is increasingly being viewed as the way to bring sustainable and cheap lighting to the vast segments of the country that are yet to be connected to the electricity grid, especially in difficult terrain regions and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)
(a): The pace of addition of grid connected solar power has not slowed down. Details of solar power capacity addition in last few years are given below:-

Sl. No.	Year	Cumulative capacity (MW)
1	2013-14	2631.9 MW
2	2014-15	3743.97 MW
3	2015-16	6762.85 MW
4	2016-17	10176.18 MW

(as on 21.3.2017)

As different type of solar installations serve different category of beneficiaries, Government is promoting both grid connected ground mounted projects as well as rooftop projects apart from promotion of solar off grid solutions.
(b): The year-wise target of solar power are given below:

Year/Category	Rooftop Solar	Large Scale Solar Power Projects	Total
2015-16	200	1,800	2,000
2016-17	4,800	7,200	12,000
2017-18	5,000	10,000	15,000
2018-19	6,000	10,000	16,000
2019-20	7,000	10,000	17,000
2020-21	8,000	9,500	17,500
2021-22	9,000	8,500	17,500
Total	40,000	57,000	97,000*

*3,743 MW commissioned upto 2014-15.
The cumulative solar power capacity installation, as on 21.3.2017, is 10.18 GW. Land availability power evacuation infrastructure, Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) compliance are major challenges in meeting the targets.
(c): Yes, Madam. Government is providing Central financial assistance as per respective scheme guidelines for off-grid solutions like Solar Lanterns/ Study lamp, Home Lights, Street Lights, Solar Power Plant (MWp), Solar Pumps etc.
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